

Drainage Management Team

Fact Sheet

Drainage Management Team Purpose

The DMT is an interagency team comprised of staff members from state and federal agencies and academic institutions that meet regularly to coordinate and network regarding agricultural drainage topics.

Drainage Management Team Membership

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
Minnesota State University - Mankato,
Water Resource Center (MSU – M, WRC)
United States Corp of Engineers (USCOE)
United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
United States Geological Service (USGS)
University of Minnesota (UMN)
USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
USDA – Agricultural Research Service (USDA – ARS)



Charge / Scope:

1. Foster interagency communication, coordination and collaboration regarding drainage topics and issues related to agriculture, natural resources, economics and associated aspects of Minnesota's resource sustainability. This includes promoting consistent interpretation of technical information regarding drainage and compatibility of associated programs and policies.
2. Coordinate with technical experts of other drainage stakeholders, as applicable.
3. Provide coordinated drainage and associated BMP information, education, outreach, and other assistance to Minnesota drainage authorities, other agency staff, LGUs, landowners and their technical advisors, and other stakeholders.
4. Promote the development and implementation of Multipurpose Drainage Management¹ in Minnesota in conjunction with Conservation Drainage² (CD) and Drainage Water Management³ (DWM) techniques and practices.
5. Provide technical information to the Drainage Work Group and other entities for the purposes of informing technically sound decisions.
6. Help to update and maintain the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual.
7. The DMT will work to understand various perspectives while working toward consensus.

Desired Outcomes:

- Team members, Minnesota drainage authorities, agency staff, LGUs, landowners and their technical advisors, and other stakeholders are well informed about drainage issues, drainage research, including multipurpose drainage management¹, conservation drainage², and drainage water management³ BMPs.
- Current and consistent information and education/outreach is made available and/or provided to drainage stakeholders for multipurpose drainage management, conservation drainage and drainage water management practices and programs
- Drainage management moves in the direction to better address multiple goals, including agricultural production and sustainability, erosion reduction, flood damage reduction, water quality, wildlife habitat improvement, and targeting of investments where drainage management has the greatest impact.
- Drainage System BMP chapter is developed for the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual.

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